

Claims

1. Device for perceivably accentuating message elements of a message, wherein said message is composed of message elements chosen from a limited set of message elements, the device comprising:
 - means for defining and/or altering a set of Selected Message Elements (SMEs) containing at least one SME, wherein each SME is a message element from said limited set of message elements,
 - means for assigning a Perceivable Accentuation Signal (PAS) from a set of PASSs to each of said SMEs in said set of SMEs,
 - means for searching said message for SMEs of said set of SMEs, and
 - means for generating the assigned PAS for each SME found in said message.
2. Device according to claim 1, characterised in that said set of PASSs comprises optically and/or acoustically and/or haptically and/or olfactorily and/or thermally and/or electrically PASSs.
3. Device according to any of the claims 1-2, characterised in that said PASSs in said set of PASSs have different signal characteristics such as amplitudes and/or frequencies and/or durations and/or signal forms.
4. Device according to any of the claims 1-3, characterised in that said message is a text message, that said message elements are characters or

combinations thereof and that said means for searching said message for SMEs of said set of SMEs comprises a parser.

5. Device according to any of the claims 1-4, characterised in that said set of SMEs and information on the PASs assigned to each SME in said set of SMEs are stored in said device.
6. Device according to any of the claims 1-5, characterised in that said means for generating the assigned PAS for each SME found in said message comprises means for generating said assigned PASs for each SME found in the message sequentially and synchronised with the rendering velocity of the message and/or synchronised with the message perception velocity of the user of said device.
7. Device according to claim 6, characterised in that the device further comprises means for determining the message perception velocity of the user of said device.
8. Device according to any of the claims 1-7, characterised in that said device is contained in a mobile phone that is operable in a mobile communications system and that said message is a message in the format of the Short Message Service (SMS).
9. Device according to any of the claims 1-7, characterised in that said device is contained in a computer and that said message is an electronic mail (e-mail) message.

10. Method for the perceivable accentuation of message elements of a message, wherein said message is composed of message elements chosen from a limited set of message elements, comprising the following steps:

- defining and/or altering a set of Selected Message Elements (SMEs) containing at least one SEM, wherein each SME is a message element from said limited set of message elements and is assigned a Perceivable Accentuation Signal (PAS) from a set of PASSs,
- searching said message for SMEs of said set of SMEs, and
- generating the assigned PAS for each SME found in the message.

11. Method according to claim 10, characterised in that said set of PASSs comprises optically and/or acoustically and/or haptically and/or olfactorily and/or thermally and/or electrically PASSs.

12. Method according to any of the claims 10-11, characterised in that said PASSs in said set of PASSs have different signal characteristics such as amplitudes and/or frequencies and/or durations and/or signal forms.

13. Method according to any of the claims 10-12, characterised in that said message is a text message, that said message elements are characters or combinations thereof and that said step of searching said message for SMEs of said set of SMEs comprises the step of parsing said message.

14. Method according to any of the claims 10-13, characterised in that said set of SMEs and information

on the PASSs assigned to each SME in said set of SMEs are stored.

15. Method according to any of the claims 10-14, characterised in that said assigned PASSs for each SME found in the message are generated sequentially and synchronised with the rendering velocity of the message and/or synchronised with the message perception velocity of the user of said method.
16. Method according to claim 15, characterised in that the method further comprises the step of determining the message perception velocity of the user of said method.
17. A computer program product directly loadable into the internal memory of a digital computer, comprising software code portions for performing the method steps of any of the claims 10-16 when said product is run on a computer.